

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-14 ACDA-19

OMB-01 AID-20 NIC-01 EB-11 STR-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

INT-08 CIEP-02 DRC-01 /215 W  
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R 111615Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6927

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2199

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG, XF

SUBJECT: MOBUTU'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP

1. WHEN I SAW MOBUTU MARCH 9 FOR A TETE-A-TETE AFTER HIS LONG ABSENCE WHICH WOULD UP WITH THREE WEEKS IN THE ME, I ASKED HIM FOR HIS IMPRESSIONS RN VIEW OF THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT EFFORTS IN THE AREA.

2. MOBUTU'S MOST IMPORTANT REMARK CONCERNED HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH SADAT. LATTER NOTED MOBUTU HAD BEEN CLOSE TO US SINCE INDEPENDENCE AND ASKED ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE WITH THE AMERICANS.

3. MOBUTU SAID HE REPLIED THERE WOULD NOT BE AN INDEPENDENT AND UNIFIED ZAIRE WERE IT NOT FOR THE US.

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THE US AND ZAIRE DISAGREED ON SOME THINGS. HOWEVER,

AMERICANS WERE COMPLETELY SINCERE FRIENDS AND HAVE NEVER INTERFERED IN ZAIRE'S AFFAIRS. SADAT COMMENTED THAT HE HAD SAME IMPRESSION OF THE USG.

4. SADAT CAUTIONED MOBUTU AGAINST FALLING INTO THE CLUTCHES OF THE RUSSIANS. " ONCE THEY SELL YOU EQUIPMENT YOU SPEND THE NEXT 100 YEARS PAYING FOR IT, THEY WOULD TAKE ALL OF YOUR COPPER AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS." SADAT ILLUSTRATED HIS POINT BY PLACING BOTH HANDS AROUND HIS NECK IN A STRANGLE HOLD.

5. SADAT SAID HE THOUGHT HE HAD WON QUADHAFI'S SUPPORT FOR HIS POLICY VIS-VIS ISRAEL. SYRIA, HE NOTED, WAS MORE DIFFICULT. FAYSAL, MOBUTU FOUND, WAS PREOCCUPIED WITH MOSLEM HOLY SITES IN JERUSALEM. MOBUTU SAID TO ME HE DIDN'T SEE HOW ISRAELIS COULD BE EXPECTED TO GIVE UP JERUSALEM BUT THAT THEY SHOULD BE LIBERAL CONCERNING INTERNATIONALIZATION OF RELIGIOUS SITES.

6. MOBUTU SAID SADAT WELCOMED HIM AS A YOUNGER BROTHER AND SHOWED HIM ALL OF EGYPT'S MILITARY EQUIPMENT. MOBUTU FOUND SADAT TO BE SINCERE, PERHAPS TOO MUCH SO, HE SAID.

7. RE PETROLEUM, MOBUTU HAD IMPRESSION EMBARGO WOULD BE LIFTED SOON BUT THAT ARABS WOULD CONTINUE ADHERE TO HARD LINE ON PRICE. WHILE IN IRAN, THE SHAH PROMISED MOBUTU ALL THE OIL ZAIRE NEEDS AND AGREED TO HELP ON TRANSPORT. OF ALL THE OIL COUNTRIES, ABU DHABI'S LEADERS SEEMED THE MOST REASONABLE.

8. COMMENT: FROM FOREGOING I SURMISE THAT MOBUTU DID NOT SUCCEED IN GETTING ANY PRICE CONCESSIONS ON OIL FROM HIS HOSTS. ANOTHER PURPOSE IN HIS EXTENSIVE TRIP WAS PROBABLY TO PROMOTE ARAB INVESTMENT IN ZAIRE. IT IS TOO EARLY TO KNOW WHETHER HE HAD ANY SUCCESS IN THIS AREA BUT HE DID NOT BOAST OF ANYTHING.  
VANCE

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